

Appl. No. 09/429,047
Arndt. Dated 07/06/2004
Reply to Office Action of 05/03/2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed May 3, 2004. The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination. Claims 1, 14 and 19 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 2-13, 15-18 and 20 are allowed and pending.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 14 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wirkestrand (WO 99/37073). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection, but further discussion of the rejection is moot based on the cancellation of claims 1, 14 and 19. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute these claims at a later time.

In light of the foregoing, withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 09/429,047
Amtd. Dated 07/06/2004
Reply to Office Action of 05/03/2004

Conclusion

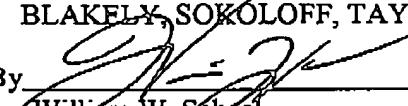
Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 07/06/2004

By


William W. Schaal

Reg. No. 39,018

Tel.: (714) 557-3800 (Pacific Coast)

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

MAILING

FACSIMILE

deposited with the United States Postal Service
as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and
Trademark Office.

Date: 07/06/04


Susan McFarlane

07/06/04

Date